

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

FROST, Martin (Democrat)
Representative, 24th District, Texas
Elected 1978 to 96th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Glendale, California -- 1 January 1942

Home: Dallas, Texas

Marital status: Married (Army MGen Kathryn Frost, Commander, AAFES) - three children

Religion: Jewish

Education: Univ of Missouri, BA, BJ, 1964; Georgetown Univ, JD, 1970

Military: US Army Reserve, 1966-72

Profession: Lawyer; journalist

Political: Unsuccessfully sought Democratic nomination for US House, 1974. Defeated incumbent Dale Milford in the 1978 Democratic primary and received 54% of the vote in the general election. Reelected in 2000 with 62% of the votes and in 2002 with 65%.

Rep Frost, a liberal, generally votes along party lines, but breaks this record on occasion to support certain weapons requests, such as the MX in 1985. Considers himself a fiscal conservative who favors reduced federal spending, yet has strongly supported the super-conducting supercollider, which is mainly in his district. In early 1993, went to Japan to convince them to invest \$1B in the project.

Voted in the 102d Congress to grant President Bush authority to use military force in Iraq. Urged the President to protect the B-2 from cuts in the FY93 defense budget.

In the 106th Congress, elected Chairman of the Democratic Caucus. During debate on the conference report for the FY00 Defense Appropriations Bill, said that no other aircraft in our current arsenal will be able to fulfill the role that the F-22 is designed to fill in the next century (CR, 13Oct99). Believed the \$288.5B in budget authority in the DoD Appns conference report reflected a bipartisan need to ensure that our national defense is second to none and that in order for our military to maintain its global superiority, it is necessary to make substantial financial commitments in order to restructure our Cold War forces to meet the challenges of the 21st century. During debate on the FY01 DoD Authorization, stated he was particularly pleased that the bill contained provisions to improve military quality of life and military health care.

In the 107th Congress, commented on Seattle-based Boeing Company's announcement to move its corporate headquarters out of Washington State; believed Dallas-Fort Worth would be an ideal location because of its major airport, pro-business environment, and access to Boeing customers. Signed letter to Sec/Def Rumsfeld expressing concern that further delay would effectively kill the F-22. Praising the FY 03 Defense Appropriations Conference Report, remarked that "maintaining our status as the world's premiere military power requires continued investments in the advanced weapons upon which our troops rely." Urged fellow House members to pass the Armed Forces Tax Fairness Act, which restores tax deductions for training expenses incurred by the National Guard and Reserve.

Additional: Member, Air Power Caucus. Defense contractors in his district are Lockheed Martin (Grand Prairie) and Northrop Grumman (Dallas).

AF Bases: ANG's 136th Airlift Wing (8 PAA C-130H unit) has been relocated from NAS Dallas (Hensley Field) as directed by 1995 BRAC -- Unit is operating at Joint Reserve Base Ft Worth (formerly Carswell AFB) -- Navy officially turned over the property at NAS Dallas to the City on 1Oct98.

COMMITTEES

RULES -- Subc on the Legislative and Budget Process, Ranking
SELECT HOMELAND SECURITY